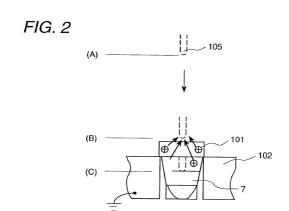
102

FIG. 1 107 120 104 ,111 PUMP FOR SAMPLE PUMP FOR WASHING PUMP FOR REAGENT 103 /115 108 116 A/D CONVERTER 117 106 INTERFACE 112 101 PRINTER 118 CRT 105 122 150

125

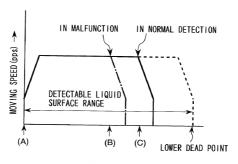
/121

KEYBOARD



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FIG. 3



PRIOR ART

FIG. 4

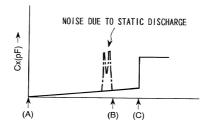


FIG. 5

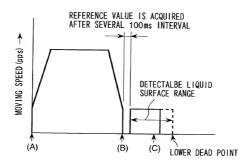


FIG. 6

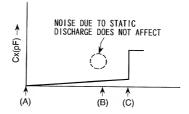


FIG. 7

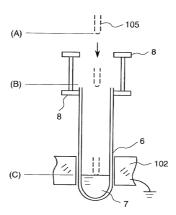


FIG. 8

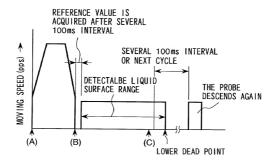


FIG. 9

AFTER THE PROBE CEASES TO DESCEND, THE CAPACITANCE IS MONITORED FOR A SPECIFIED LENGTH OF TIME. THE PROBE DESCENDS AGAIN IF THE CAPACITANCE DETECTED HAS DECREASED.

